## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 201690

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ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 USIA-12 /023 R

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----- 083400

R 111918Z OCT 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: OEXC, BU

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: VOLUNTARY VISITOR ALAN GERSHWIN

- 1. DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED THAT ALAN GERSHWIN HAS BEEN INVITED BY BULGARIAN COMMITTEE FOR FRIENDSHIP AND CULTURAL RELATIONS TO VISIT BULGARIA AS SON OF COMPOSER GEORGE GERSHWIN. IT IS PROBLEMATIC WHETHER ALAN GERSHWIN WILL ACTUALLY MAKE TRIP INASMUCH AS HE IS APPARENTLY HAVING DIFFICULTY RAISING FUNDS FOR TRAVEL.
- 2. GERSHWIN HAS APPROACHED DEPARTMENT FOR "LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION" WHICH WOULD, IN EFFECT, GIVE OFFICIAL U.S. BLESSING TO HIS VISIT. DEPARTMENT RELUCTANT TO BECOME INVOLVED, HOWEVER, AND HAS LET HIM KNOW INFORMALLY THAT SUCH LETTER CANNOT BE FURNISHED. FYI: RELIABLE SOURCES DENY THAT ALAN IS GEORGE GERSHWIN'S SON.
- 3. DEPARTMENT HAS NOT BEEN INFORMED ABOUT PROGRAM PROPOSED FOR GERSHWIN IN BULGARIA. SHOULD HE MAKE TRIP AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTACT EMBASSY, HE SHOULD BE TREATED AS ANY OTHER AMERICAN

CITIZEN. IF COMMITTEE FOR FRIENDSHIP QUERIES EMBASSY REGARDING GERSHWIN, EMBASSY SHOULD AVOID TAKING ANY OFFICIAL POSITION ON VALIDITY OF ALAN'S CLAIM TO BE SON OF GEORGE GERSHWIN. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: EXCHANGES: VOLUNTARY VISITOR ALAN GERSHWIN

TAGS: OEXC, BU To: SOFIA

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